BEFORE THE OHIO POWER SITING BOARD

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In the Matter of the Letter of Notification Application of Big Plain Solar, LLC to Construct the Big Plain Solar Transmission Facility

Case No. 21-1174-EL-BLN

JOINT APPLICATION OF BIG PLAIN SOLAR, LLC AND AMERICAN TRANSMISSION SYSTEMS, INCORPORATED TO TRANSFER AND ASSIGN PORTION OF CONSTRUCTION CERTIFICATE

Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Chapter 4906.04, Big Plain Solar, LLC ("Big Plain") and American Transmission Systems, Incorporated ("ATSI", and collectively with Big Plain, the "Joint Applicants") seek approval to transfer and assign a portion of the Construction Certificate in this Case No. 21-1174-EL-BLN (the "Construction Certificate") for the transmission facility as described in the Letter of Notification Application filed in this proceeding on November 17, 2021 (the "Project"). Specifically, Joint Applicants request approval to transfer and assign from Big Plain to ATSI the portion of the Construction Certificate relating only to the following: (1) the POI multi-breaker switching station, (2) the approximately 100-foot long span of 138kV transmission line to connect the POI multi-breaker switching station to the existing ATSI Beatty-London transmission line and (3) the approximately 0.4-mile access road to service the POI multi-breaker switching station (collectively, items (1) through (3) above are referred to as the "ATSI Transmission Facility"). For purposes of clarity, the approximately 0.4-mile long 138 kV gen-tie transmission line (the "Gen-Tie Line"), which is part of the Project, is not included in the ATSI Transmission Facility and is not subject to this Joint Application. In keeping with the policy of the State of Ohio, the ATSI Transmission Facility will continue to be subject to the jurisdiction of the Ohio Power Siting Board (the "<u>OPSB</u>") and the terms and conditions of the Construction Certificate that are applicable to the ATSI Transmission Facility will remain in force.

The proposed assignment of the Construction Certificate as it relates to the ATSI Transmission Facility was contemplated in the Letter of Notification Application filed in this proceeding on November 17, 2021. See Letter of Notification Application, Section (B)(1), page 4 ("It is anticipated that the Certificate for the ring bus switching station and line loop will be transferred to ATSI, which will be the long-term owner and operator of the POI Switchyard."). The Gen-Tie Line will be constructed, owned, and operated by Big Plain. See OPSB Staff Report of Investigation (filed on December 9, 2021) at page 2. Construction of the ATSI Transmission Facility is also contemplated and required under the Interconnection Service Agreement and the Construction Services Agreement executed by the Joint Applicants and PJM Interconnection, L.L.C. associated with PJM Queue positions AC1-078 and AD1-081. To support the construction schedule for the Big Plain utility-scale solar farm (the "Generating Facility"),¹ the Joint Applicants are proposing to transfer and assign the portion of the Construction Certificate relating to the ATSI Transmission Facility from Big Plain to ATSI to be effective upon approval of this application. Big Plain would continue to hold the Construction Certificate with respect to the Gen-Tie Line. Other projects have applied for and received approvals for similar partial transfers and assignments. See e.g. May 19, 2016 Entry in Case No. 13-1752-EL-BGN (bifurcating certificate and transferring switchyard to AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc.) and April 16, 2020 Entry in Case No. 17-1091-EL-BLN (granting joint application to bifurcate the construction certificate and assign the portion of the construction certificate for a utility switchyard from Long Ridge Energy Generation LLC to AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc.).

¹ A Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the Generating Facility was issued to Big Plain Solar, LLC on March 18, 2021 in Case No. 19-1823-EL-BGN.

As noted above, in keeping with the policy of the State of Ohio, the ATSI Transmission Facility and the Gen-Tie Line will each be subject to the jurisdiction of the OPSB and remain subject to all of the applicable terms and conditions in the Construction Certificate. Furthermore, as required pursuant to R.C. 4906.04, upon transfer of the Construction Certificate with respect to the ATSI Transmission Facility from Big Plain to ATSI, ATSI agrees to abide by all the terms and conditions in the Construction Certificate that are applicable to the ATSI Transmission Facility.

In support of this Joint Application, the Joint Applicants are submitting correspondence attached as <u>Exhibit A</u> confirming ATSI's commitment to abide by the terms and conditions of the Construction Certificate applicable to the ATSI Transmission Facility as required by the Staff Report of Investigation in this proceeding. Big Plain has also sent via overnight mail a letter to the Madison County Commissioners and Fairfield Township Trustees notifying them of the transfer request (attached as <u>Exhibit B</u>).

Wherefore, the Joint Applicants respectfully request that, pursuant to R.C. 4906.04, the OPSB approve the transfer and assignment of the portion of the Construction Certificate related to the ATSI Transmission Facility (as defined above) to ATSI. The Joint Applicants also request such transfer be effective at approval.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Michael J. Settineri Michael J. Settineri (0073369), Counsel of Record Anna Sanyal (0089269) Mark A. Hylton (0088384) VORYS, SATER, SEYMOUR AND PEASE LLP 52 East Gay Street P.O. Box 1008 Columbus, Ohio 43216-1008 (614) 464-5462 (614) 719-5146 (fax) mjsettineri@vorys.com aasanyal@vorys.com mahylton@vorys.com

Attorneys for Big Plain Solar, LLC

<u>/s/ Devan K. Flahive (upon authorization)</u> Devan K. Flahive (0097457) Porter Wright Morris & Arthur LLP 41 South High Street, Suite 2900 Columbus, OH 43215 Telephone: (614) 227-1989 Email: dflahive@porterwright.com

Anne M. Rericha (0079637) FirstEnergyService Company 76 South Main Street Akron, Ohio 44308 Email: arericha@firstenergygroup.com

Attorneys for American Transmission Systems, Incorporated

76 South Main Street Akron, Ohio 44308

January 31, 2022

Ms. Tanowa Troupe Ohio Power Siting Board, Docketing Division, 180 East Broad Street, 11th Floor Columbus, OH 43215-3793

Joint Application to Transfer and Assign Portion of Construction Certificate Big Plain Solar Transmission Facility Project <u>Case No. 21-1174-EL-BLN</u>

Dear Ms. Troupe,

Effective December 16, 2021, a Letter of Notification Construction Certificate ("Construction Certificate") was granted to Big Plain Solar, LLC ("Big Plain") pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Chapter 4906 for the construction, operation, and maintenance of a transmission line facility, which includes the following components that will be constructed and owned by American Transmission Systems, Incorporated ("ATSI"): (1) the POI multi-breaker switching station, (2) the approximately 100-foot long span of 138kV transmission line to connect the POI multi-breaker switching station to the existing ATSI Beatty-London 138 kV transmission line, and (3) the approximately 0.4-mile access road to service the POI multi-breaker switching station (collectively, items (1) through (3) above are referred to as the "<u>ATSI Transmission Facility</u>").

Big Plain and ATSI are requesting that the portion of the Construction Certificate encompassing the ATSI Transmission Facility be transferred and assigned from Big Plain to ATSI so that ATSI can commence construction for the ATSI Transmission Facility as the certificated entity. It is the intent of ATSI to abide by all conditions related to the ATSI Transmission Facility set forth in the Staff Report issued to Big Plain

If there are any questions concerning this matter, please contact me at 330-384-2526.

Sincerely,

Scott M. Humphrys Transmission Siting Supervisor Energy Delivery Transmission and Substation Design FirstEnergy Service Company



Exhibit B



Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP Legal Counsel 52 East Gay Street P.O. Box 1008 Columbus, Ohio 43216-1008

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Founded 1909

Michael J. Settineri Direct Dial (614) 464-5462 Direct Fax (614) 719-5146 Email mjsettineri@vorys.com

February 1, 2022

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS 2-DAY SERVICE

Commissioners Mark Forrest, Tony Xenikis, and David Hunter Madison County Board of Commissioners 1 N. Main Street London, OH 43140

> Re: Joint Application to Transfer and Assign Portion of Construction Certificate Big Plain Solar, LLC/American Transmission Systems, Incorporated OPSB Case No. 21-1174-EL-BLN

Dear Commissioners Forrest, Xenikis and Hunter:

The purpose of this letter is to make you aware of a joint application filed by Big Plain Solar, LLC ("Big Plain Solar") and American Transmission Systems, Incorporated ("ATSI") to the Ohio Power Siting Board to assign a portion of the Construction Certificate issued in Case No. 21-1174-EL-BLN to ATSI. The portion of the Construction Certificate to be assigned consists of a point of interconnection multibreaker switching station, an approximately 100-foot long span of 138kV transmission line to connect the switching station to ATSI's existing Beatty-London transmission line, and an approximately 0.4-mile access road to service the switching station. Upon approval by the Ohio Power Siting Board, ATSI will assume responsibility for the assigned components of the Construction Certificate, and will construct, own, and operate those facilities.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 614-464-5462.

Sincerely,

Michael N Settineri Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP Attorneys for Big Plain Solar, LLC



Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP Legal Counsel

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February 1, 2022

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS 2-DAY SERVICE

Jeff Marshall, Wayne Francis and Steve Denes Fairfield Township Board of Trustees 9100 Big Plain-Circleville Road London, OH 43140

> Re: Joint Application to Transfer and Assign Portion of Construction Certificate Big Plain Solar, LLC/American Transmission Systems, Incorporated OPSB Case No. 21-1174-EL-BLN

Dear Trustees Marshall, Francis and Denes:

The purpose of this letter is to make you aware of a joint application filed by Big Plain Solar, LLC ("Big Plain Solar") and American Transmission Systems, Incorporated ("ATSI") to the Ohio Power Siting Board to assign a portion of the Construction Certificate issued in Case No. 21-1174-EL-BLN to ATSI. The portion of the Construction Certificate to be assigned consists of a point of interconnection multibreaker switching station, an approximately 100-foot long span of 138kV transmission line to connect the switching station to ATSI's existing Beatty-London transmission line, and an approximately 0.4-mile access road to service the switching station. Upon approval by the Ohio Power Siting Board, ATSI will assume responsibility for the assigned components of the Construction Certificate, and will construct, own, and operate those facilities.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 614-464-5462.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Settineri Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP Attorneys for Big Plain Solar, LLC



Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP Legal Counsel

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February 1, 2022

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS 2-DAY SERVICE

Mr. Bryan Dhume The Madison County Engineer 825 US 42 NE London, OH 43140

> Re: Joint Application to Transfer and Assign Portion of Construction Certificate Big Plain Solar, LLC/American Transmission Systems, Incorporated OPSB Case No. 21-1174-EL-BLN

Dear Mr. Dhume:

The purpose of this letter is to make you aware of a joint application filed by Big Plain Solar, LLC ("Big Plain Solar") and American Transmission Systems, Incorporated ("ATSI") to the Ohio Power Siting Board to assign a portion of the Construction Certificate issued in Case No. 21-1174-EL-BLN to ATSI. The portion of the Construction Certificate to be assigned consists of a point of interconnection multi-breaker switching station, an approximately 100-foot long span of 138kV transmission line to connect the switching station to ATSI's existing Beatty-London transmission line, and an approximately 0.4-mile access road to service the switching station. Upon approval by the Ohio Power Siting Board, ATSI will assume responsibility for the assigned components of the Construction Certificate, and will construct, own, and operate those facilities.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 614-464-5462.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Settineri Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP Attorneys for Big Plain Solar, LLC



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February 1, 2022

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS 2-DAY SERVICE

Madison County Soil and Water Conservation District 831 US Hwy 42 NE London, OH 43140

> Re: Joint Application to Transfer and Assign Portion of Construction Certificate Big Plain Solar, LLC/American Transmission Systems, Incorporated OPSB Case No. 21-1174-EL-BLN

Dear Sir or Madam:

The purpose of this letter is to make you aware of a joint application filed by Big Plain Solar, LLC ("Big Plain Solar") and American Transmission Systems, Incorporated ("ATSI") to the Ohio Power Siting Board to assign a portion of the Construction Certificate issued in Case No. 21-1174-EL-BLN to ATSI. The portion of the Construction Certificate to be assigned consists of a point of interconnection multibreaker switching station, an approximately 100-foot long span of 138kV transmission line to connect the switching station to ATSI's existing Beatty-London transmission line, and an approximately 0.4-mile access road to service the switching station. Upon approval by the Ohio Power Siting Board, ATSI will assume responsibility for the assigned components of the Construction Certificate, and will construct, own, and operate those facilities.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 614-464-5462.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Settineri Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP Attorneys for Big Plain Solar, LLC

This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

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Case No(s). 21-1174-EL-BLN

Summary: Application Joint Application to Transfer and Assign Portion of Construction Certificate electronically filed by Ms. Anna Sanyal on behalf of Big Plain Solar, LLC